

Iao Pepa

NA MAKANI

A Monthly Newsletter of Iao United Church of Christ

2371 W. Vineyard St., Wailuku, HI 96793-1626

May 2018

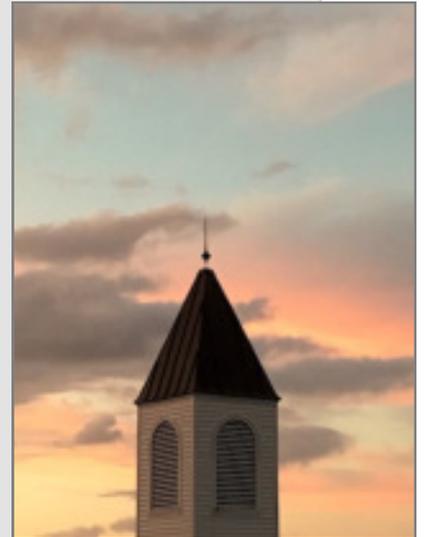
Blessings from Pastor Tino | *“Spring The Fire of Pentecost”*

As Pentecost approaches – are we ready to light things up Iao UCC? With so many Conference and Tri-Isle Association meetings coming up, looks like we will be busy participating in some strategic planning. I would encourage all of us to allow the Holy Spirit of God to light a fire in us and bring our great ideas out into the open and participate in this exciting strategic planning. Let us think out of the box and allow the creative process to “spring” forward – this is how a church emerges as new and innovative – when the Holy Spirit of God comes forth from each of us. Remember that “inward center” I always talk about? We have Tri-Isle Mokupuni coming up on May 12th and A’ha Paina in June – looks like Iao UCC will be represented well – thank you, thank you, thank you to all our delegates. Oh yea, don’t forget to wear your “We Are Iao UCC” t-shirts!

Each month there are so many exciting things that I am grateful and thankful. April has been a busy one for many in our church family. Once again, we saw some amazing work done on our church campus with the retaining wall being redone, handicap ramp resurfaced, new water heater for Kanda Hall installed, new door for the storage room installed, church/campus clean up, a new sign for Fujitomo Hall, and so much more. Please extend our sincere gratitude to our Buildings and Grounds Community for all their hard work and donating of materials and time in getting our grounds up to par.

April was also a time that we celebrated our 123rd Anniversary. Looking at many of the archives is telling of a church that has always looked to the future and never afraid to change as a new Pentecostal fire is lit. A history of welcoming Buddhists to attend Christian worship services since they did not have their own church is just an example where ALL truly does mean ALL when it comes to Iao UCC’s history of radical inclusion and hospitality. I pray Iao, that we continue that same tradition that we have become known for – and yet, we must not be complacent on hateful rhetoric or anyone that chooses to create an unsafe environment.

I pray that the fire of the Holy Spirit continues to ignite in each of us – a great sense of inspiration, spiritual growth and renewal, newness, innovation, creativity – then move out and put “love” into practice in our communities – for “We Are Iao UCC.”



May Lectionary

May 6 **6th Sunday of Easter**

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

Friends Together

May 13 **7th Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

Guided in Prayer

May 20 **Pentecost Sunday**

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27

Spirit for All

May 27 **Trinity Sunday**

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

Mysterious Encounter

The lesson in **bold** is the focus of both the message of the day and any Sunday School lesson; and the italicized title is the theme for the Sunday service. •



Pastor Tino giving the sermon on the Sunday after Easter (photo by Tim Greathouse, who posted it to the church's Facebook Group page).



*Sunday after Sunday, the sanctuary is graced (pun intended!) with the elegant—one could even say, lyrical—floral compositions that Aunty **Grace Murata** brings. These organic offerings are a delight to the eye, the mind, and indeed, the spirit.*

May Worship Readers:

Jayven Bathin & Warren Orikasa

May Worship Responsibilities*

May 6

Greeter: Gail Ideue

Head Usher: Rena Hayashi

Usher: Shannon Furomoto

Hostess: Jaime Ribao

Aloha Hour:

Susan King, Dawna Krueger & Sanoe Awai

May 13

Aloha Hour:

Joanne Reinhardt & Mike Takamatsu

May 20

Aloha Hour:

Avis & Kalani Wong

May 27

Aloha Hour:

Maui Kosrae Etawi

* (same greeter, ushers and hostess for the whole month)

May Birthdays

- 5/2 Lovinda Mogermed
- 5/4 Tiana Fernandez
- 5/5 Maybelle Hashizume
- 5/7 Alana Fernandez
- 5/8 Paul Tonnessen
- 5/9 Anna Mayeda
- 5/12 Thelma Iwami
- 5/16 Melissa Goulart
- 5/18 Diana George
- 5/20 Michael Kaneshina
- 5/22 Lyndon Cornelius
- 5/24 Carissa Yinmed
- 5/28 Zachary Withrow
- 5/30 Noah Johannes, Jr.
- 5/30 Heide Israel

Aloha Hour Supplies

For Aloha Hour, the Buildings and Grounds Team will have a plastic tub set up with supplies used. There will be supplies such as plates, cups, utensils, and napkins. This plastic tub will be located in Fujitomo Hall.

On Sundays, Aloha Hour hosts/hostesses are asked to bring the tub down from Fujitomo Hall and returned to the same location after. Please list on the tub any items needing re-stocking and the Team will make every effort to keep up with the inventory.

Iao UCC in the Hawai'i Conference

by L. Nebres

Spring Aha Mokupuni

Iao UCC is sending 4 delegates to the Annual Meeting of the 'Aha O Na Mokupuni 'o Maui, Moloka'i a me Lana'i (the Tri-Isle Association) that takes place on Saturday, May 12th at Po'okela Church in Makawao. Our church's delegates are Warren Orikasa, Tim Greathouse, Youlida Yoruw, and Pastor Tino. The Mokupuni meeting is a time for worship and for the Association to conduct business, approve next year's budgets, elect new officers, and receive ministry reports. Speaking of new officers, the new Mokupuni president will be none other than our Warren Orikasa; and the new Treasurer, our Pastor Tino. It certainly looks like Iao UCC is taking on a heightened role in the Association.

196th Aha Pae'aina

This year's statewide annual meeting of the Hawaii Conference UCC is going to be held on June 6th to 9th at the Community Church of Honolulu. Iao UCC's delegates to the Aha Makua (the main meeting on June 8 and 9) include moderator Tim Stewart, Warren Orikasa, Youlida Yoruw, and our youth delegates Francis Yinmed and Maverick Falan. In addition, Tim, Warren and Youlida will be attending the UCC Polity classes and seminars taking place all day on Thursday, June 7th. The main topic at the Aha this year will be a revamping of the the Hawai'i Conference's mission statement and strategic initiatives—an historic and important development in the life of the HCUCC.

Upcoming Noteworthy Events for your Calendar

Wednesday, May 9

Finance Committee

5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

Friday, May 11

Iao Preschool Mother's Day Luncheon

11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Saturday, May 12

Tri-Isle Association *Aha Mokupuni*
8:30 a.m. (Po'okela Church, Makawao)

Friday, May 18

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Sunday, May 20

Worshiping Community

11 a.m., after Aloha Hour (Fujitomo or Kanda Hall)

Sunday, May 20

Witnessing/Reconciling & Outreach Community

11 a.m., after Aloha Hour (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, May 23

COUNCIL

5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

Sunday, May 27

Bible Study (Session #2)

11 a.m. (Kanda Hall)

Fri. & Sat., June 8-9

Hawaii Conference UCC 196th 'Aha Pae'aina
Community Church of Honolulu, O'ahu

IAO UCC BAZAAR 2018

*The church will once again have its Annual Bazaar
which will take place this year on*

Saturday, August 4th, from 8 am to 1 p.m.

*Please plan on contributing bazaar items and bringing them
to Kanda Hall during the month of July.*

Sunday, April 29, 2018 — Iao UCC Celebrates its 123rd Anniversary {photos by Carolyn Kamidoi}



When Was It

Blessings to All,

I've always wanted to make a difference in people's lives but just didn't quite know how & where. This brings me to an experience that I had recently.

I currently work at Gammie HomeCare as a Customer Service Representative. One day this gentleman came in with no shoes on his feet. I could tell that he was struggling and frustrated. He had a fractured foot and needed a walking boot. While I was preparing the paperwork, he must've walked outside and back in a few times. I could see that his feet were really dirty. Usually someone would've told him that he needed to wash his feet first before he could be fitted, etc. I immediately thought about what I heard Rev. Tino share in worship one day. "When was it that we helped or didn't help Jesus?"



I thought about this and thought here is my opportunity to help Jesus... by being his vessel and to help this man. I gave him a pair of booties to put on his bare feet and then fitted the boot on him. He stood up and said Oh My God, that's so much better and smiled at me. After he left, I shared my experience with a few of my co-workers. I got emotional and teared up and said that I just helped Jesus!!!

We have lots of homeless and all sorts of people that are struggling in one way or another that come in daily. I try my best to help out when & wherever I can. Sometimes just smiling, waving hello and just being kind can make a BIG difference. We can come from a place of Judgement or a place of Love...

...I chose LOVE & will continue to choose Love because I AM a grateful member and representative of Iao United Church of Christ.

Thanks be to God. AMEN!!!

With Love & Aloha,
Shannon Furomoto



Jesus Heals a Leper

The Gospel writer Mark's version of the story, from Chapter 1 verses 40 to 45 (from *The Inclusive Bible*):

A person with leprosy approached Jesus, knelt down and begged, "If you are willing, you can heal me." Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out a hand, touched the person with leprosy and said, "I am willing. Be cleansed."

Immediately, the leprosy disappeared, and the person with the disease was cured. Jesus gave a stern

warning and sent the person off. "Not a word to anyone," Jesus said. "Go off and present yourself to the priest and make an offering for your healing as Moses commanded, as a testimony to the religious authorities."

But the person who had been healed went off and began to proclaim the whole matter freely, making the story public. As a result in was no longer possible for Jesus to enter a town openly, and Jesus stayed in lonely places. Even so, people kept coming to him from all directions.

Two articles from Uncle David...

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance

By David Murata

Most of you members know that the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Remembrance committee was started by member Takako Dickenson, back when Iao UCC was still Iao Congregational Church. The Committee is made up of community organizations and individuals concerned about global use of nuclear instruments that destroys people and the planet that God created. Iao UCC has been a member of this committee since its inception and hopefully will continue to be a partners with others to bring about “peace and justice” for all of God’s people.

Annually, this group sponsors an event to bring attention and information about the need for nuclear disarmament globally. Last year it was held at Iao UCC with Pastor Tino as the MC. This year it will be held at the Okinawa Cultural Center in Waiehu, on Sunday, August 5. The event will start at 4:30 p.m. and closes with refreshments including the green tea that Lillian Maeda famously prepared.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Bill Durston of Sacramento, CA who is past president of the Sacramento Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, an organization that works for nuclear disarmament; he is presently president of Americans Against Gun Violence. He will speak about both subjects in his talk.

The Marshallese community is being asked to sing a song related to their experience of the nuclear testing in their land. Our Maui Kosrae Etawi has shared the gift of song at the past 2 events. Please keep this date open to attend this event.



Portrait of David and Grace Murata taken during the 123rd Anniversary service on April 29th, by Carolyn Kamidoi.

Iao UCC’s Endowment Fund

By David Murata

At a meeting of the Iao UCC Endowment Committee, Pastor Tino suggested we provide information to congregation members about this source of funding that provides perpetual source of support of the ministry of our church.

Most of you may know that endowment funds are established and solicited by organizations to support the organization’s operation into perpetuity. Funds are invested to generate interest and the interest earned is used for the organization’s mission. Colleges and non-profit organizations are often able to function comfortably due to large amount of endowment funds given by people who had benefited from their relationship with the organization.

Our church’s Endowment Fund giving program was established decades ago and its purpose and details of management, functions, and responsibilities are part of our By-Laws. An Endowment Committee (EC) of 3 or more members is appointed by the Church Council. The Pastor and Treasurer of the church are members of EC. EC shares actions and information with the church Finance Committee and is represented in Council by the Finance Committee.

Supporting and engagement in the ministries of the church has been a priority of my life since making a commitment to be a Christian some 65 years ago. The church was a means for personal nurture and growth in the faith. The church has allowed me to be more effective in efforts to witness to the love of Christ and God, to share the faith and reach out to others which is not possible individually. It is for this reason that we started a Murata Endowment Fund. This is a “Named” endowment fund, and is not “designated” for any particular ministry but its income can be used for any purpose the church determines.

We chose to establish this “Named” endowment so that our family or friends who know that the church is an important part of our life, and want give a gift to us, can consider giving to the Murata Endowment Fund. When our daughter passed away she left some money in this Fund. A niece in New York decided not to exchange gifts at Christmas but give the funds intended for gifts to a charity of our choice and we suggested the Murata Endowment Fund at Iao UCC. The fund is growing.

Many endowment funds are established by people who have lots of fund resources unlike some of us with fixed income. Iao UCC has a policy that allows people to start a fund at an affordable level of a start-up minimum of \$5,000 which can be raised within a 3-year period. We started Murata Endowment Fund with \$1,000. Within 3 years we reached \$5,000.00. Our prayer is that God will help us to increase this fund to over \$10,000 before we are called to his heavenly home. Our hope is that the ministry of love and caring for all people through Iao UCC will continue into perpetuity.

May 2018

Iao United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
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20 11:00 AM Witnessing & Reconciling (S) 11:00 AM Worship (F) Postcast	21 2:00 PM -4:00 PM After-school tutoring (K) Pastor's Day Off (Office Open)	22	23 9:15 AM -10:30 AM Ai Anon (K) 1:30 PM -4:00 PM After-school tutoring (K) 5:30 PM COUNCIL (F)	24 6:30 AM -8:15 AM Rotary of Maui (Kanda) 5:30 PM FACE Meeting (Kanda Hall) 6:15 PM -7:45 PM Chor (S)	25 6:00 PM Kosraen Women's Fellowship (S)	26 8:00 AM Kosrae Etawi Yard Cleanup Day 7:30 PM AA (K)																																										
27 11:00 AM Bible Study (Session No. 2)	28 Memorial Day	29 Pastor's Day Off (Office Open)	30 9:15 AM -10:30 AM Ai Anon (K)	31 6:30 AM -8:15 AM Rotary of Maui (Kanda) 6:15 PM -7:45 PM Chor (S)	<p>Jun 2018</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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More photos from Anniversary Sunday, taken by Carolyn Kamidoi...





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One early evening, in late April...

Mailed May 9, 2018
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Sunday Worship **9:30 A.M.**
 Pastor Florentino Cordova
 Moderator Tim Stewart
 Choir Director & Pianist Karyn Sarring
 Preschool Director Flerida Iniba
 Secretary/Iao Pepa Editor Lloyd Nebres

You are always welcome at Iao UCC.